



Cover Letter

March 31, 2010

Ms. Anne W. Neville
SBDD Grant Program Director
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Room 4716
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Ms. Neville:

As the Designated Entity, and in partnership with the Kansas Department of Commerce (KDOC), please accept this submission from Connected Nation on behalf of the state of Kansas' State Broadband Data and Development (SBDD) Grant Program, Connect Kansas.

These artifacts should be found to be compliant with the **March 31, 2010** deadline for submission and in accordance with the terms of the July 1, 2009 Notice of Funds Availability and all subsequent clarifications pertaining to initial delivery of State-Level Mapping of Broadband Service Availability. This packet includes:

Inventory of Deliverables, Connect Kansas: March 31, 2010:

NOFA Requirement	Data Description
Appendix A: 1.(a)(i)	Broadband Service Availability of Facilities-Based Providers in Census Blocks of No Greater Than Two Square Miles in Area
Appendix A: 1.(a)(ii)	Broadband Service Availability of Facilities-Based Providers by Road Segment in Census Blocks Larger in Area Than Two Square Miles
Appendix A: 1.(b)	Broadband Service Availability of Wireless Services Not Provided to a Specific Address
Appendix A: 2.(a)	Residential Broadband Service Weighted Average Speed
Appendix A: 3.(b)	Broadband Service Infrastructure Middle-Mile and Backbone Interconnection Points



Narratives and Methodologies

Appendix A: 4	Community Anchor Institutions-Listing
Appendix A: 4	Community Anchor Institutions-Narratives
Appendix A: 1.(b)	Mapping Methodology - <i>Per NOFA Wireless only</i>
VII.A.1.(a)	Accuracy and Verification Report
N/A	Broadband Provider Roster and Participation Status

It is therefore with great pleasure that the Connect Kansas program submits this first SBDD-compliant dataset. We will continue in partnership with the Kansas Department of Commerce to implement the joint purposes of the Recovery Act and the BDIA by the gathering of comprehensive and accurate state-level broadband mapping data, developing state-level broadband maps, aiding in the development and maintenance of a national broadband map, and undertaking statewide initiatives for broadband planning.

As this first submission is concentrated on the delivery of Broadband Service Availability and Community Anchor Institutions (CAI) data, we provide the following insight into the compilation of these datasets contained herein.

Broadband Service Availability — Provider Outreach

This first data submission under the SBDD represents participation of approximately 83% of the Kansas provider community, or 80 of 96 total providers. A complete roster by provider depicting participation status and contact record is contained herein. Of the 16 providers that are not represented in the attached datasets, 12 have either refused to participate in the voluntary program or have remained unresponsive to the numerous attempts at contact from Connect Kansas. The remaining 4 providers are currently in some form of progress toward data submission but were not able to either submit or verify coverage areas at the time of this submission.

As the aforementioned roster and attached methodology documentation will attest, it is the collective opinion of the Connect Kansas principals that all commercially reasonable efforts were made to account for 100% of the known Kansas broadband provider community.

At the program's inception, Connect Kansas launched a website to create awareness about the initiative. ConnectKansas.org serves a prominent role in the outreach and data collection effort. It provides a way for the general public to participate in the process by offering interactive tools for users to test their connection speed, submit broadband inquiries, or contact a program representative. During the provider outreach process, the website prominently featured an informational page specifically for Kansas broadband providers. While one-to-one contact was being made with each and every



Narratives and Methodologies

identified provider, the portal page was created to ensure that no one was overlooked. The website offered clear instructions about the data transfer process and a means to contact a Connect Kansas representative.

The Connect Kansas provider outreach campaign was a comprehensive effort that involved multiple individual provider contacts from Connected Nation beginning as early as July 2009 under the scope of an existing state mapping contract that preceded the SBDD grant program. In addition, the Kansas Department of Commerce convened a group of principal Kansas providers and industry association representatives, conducting several meetings and continuous e-mail outreach to keep them abreast of the status of the overall effort. Following the announcement of the SBDD program and the subsequent award of Designated Entity status through an open and competitive RFP process, Connected Nation was required to reinitiate contact with the Kansas provider community as a result of the increased scope of the SBDD program, as well as to execute new NDA terms that were compliant thereto. This phase of the provider outreach consisted of phone-based efforts as well as face-to-face solicitations on-site in Kansas. Bi-weekly reporting on provider outreach and results were provided to the state sponsors on a regular basis during this phase of the project.

Along with the high-touch, individual provider outreach, the Connect Kansas program undertook multiple public forum solicitations over the course of this first phase of the project.

In addition, state sponsor KDOC, as well as the Governor's office, coordinated two state-sponsored letter campaigns to non-participant providers on January 14, 2010 and March 18, 2010. KDOC personnel also contributed to phone-based outreach efforts to non-participants on no less than three separate occasions in February and March of 2010.

A high-level depiction of the SBDD provider outreach timeline follows:

Sep. 2009 – March 2010	Connected Nation individual provider outreach (phone & on-site)
Dec. 7, 2009	Connect Kansas kick-off press conference and provider presentation (Connected Nation & KDOC in Topeka, KS)
Jan. 14, 2010	Official letter from Governor Parkinson to providers in support of Connect Kansas participation
Feb. 1-12, 2010	State sponsored phone campaign to targeted non-participants (KDOC)
Feb. 13-25, 2010	State sponsored phone campaign to targeted non-participants (KDOC)



Narratives and Methodologies

Feb. 19, 2010	Webinar unveiling preliminary maps in support of BTOP Round 2 and call for participation and data submission (Connected Nation & KDOC)
Feb. 25, 2010	Testimony before the Kansas House Committee on Energy & Utilities (Connected Nation & KDOC in Topeka, KS)
Feb. 25, 2010	Testimony before the Kansas Senate Committee on Utilities (Connected Nation & KDOC in Topeka, KS)
Mar. 3, 2010	Official e-mail from Connect Kansas to all providers with e-mail contact calling for participation and data submission (Connected Nation)
Mar. 17, 2010	Official e-mail from Connect Kansas to all providers with e-mail contact calling for participation and data submission (Connected Nation)
Mar. 18, 2010	Official letter from KDOC to non-participants
Mar. 23-25, 2010	State sponsored phone campaign to targeted non-participants (KDOC)

Community Anchor Institutions

In this first reporting period of the SBDD, Connect Kansas has established an ongoing mechanism for gathering data on the location and broadband connectivity of Community Anchor Institutions (CAI), in accordance with the data requirements of the SBDD NOFA Technical Appendix.

In partnership with the state of Kansas, Connect Kansas has identified a list of CAI through a combination of databases from the Kansas Department of Commerce, Kan-ed (the state's educational network), the state's Division of Information Systems and Communications (DISC), and the National Public Safety Information Bureau, <http://www.usfa.safetysource.com>.

In this initial reporting period, a total 5,243 Kansas CAI were identified, addressed, and geocoded. Broadband connectivity information was acquired for 35% of these identified CAI. As is evident in the datasets being conveyed, while we were able to document institutions and the related address and contact information, the connectivity data collected in a number of categories remains less than complete. To address these gaps Connected Nation is committed to work with the KDOC and the supporting state agencies to identify and work vigorously with the principals from various associations of CAI in the state, as well as to convene representative stakeholders to explore new options for collecting and maintaining this data, in hopes of compiling a dataset that reflects a rate of 95% or higher participation within each category of CAI defined by the



Narratives and Methodologies

state. From our work in both Kansas and other states, we recognize the great value of this data to future collaboration efforts within the state, and to the accomplishment of the purposes in the recently released National Broadband Plan. We plan to continue to bring best practices to the Kansas efforts, along with an investment of both human and technical resources required to reach these goals in advance of the submission of the semi-annual update of this data due in September 2010.

In acquiring both broadband availability and CAI data within the state of Kansas, Connected Nation made special effort to engage all federal tribal lands within the state. According to the U.S. Department of the Interior — Bureau of Indian Affairs, the state of Kansas has four Native-American lands: the Iowa tribe, the Kickapoo tribe, the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation, and the Sac and Fox Nation of Kansas. Connected Nation was successful in contacting all four tribes as part of the Connect Kansas SBDD program and accounting for the resulting data in the creation of the artifacts for this submission.

The Connect Kansas program exists to improve data on the deployment and adoption of broadband services and to assist in the extension of broadband technology across all regions of the great state of Kansas, as well as the United States through contribution to the National Broadband Map. We look forward to the remaining work ahead.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carole Jordan".

Carole A. Jordan
Director
Rural Development Division
Kansas Department of Commerce

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Ferree".

Thomas W. Ferree
Chief Operating Officer
Connected Nation